



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

IRA/Sinn Fein directly involved in crime spree



Irish Republic's Justice Minister, Michael McDowell

According to the Irish Republic's Justice Minister, IRA leaders have sanctioned a partnership deal allowing members to make hefty profits out of organised crime. Michael McDowell told the Irish Independent that republicans have been given the go-ahead by the terrorist godfathers to continue their involvement in racketeering in return for a cut of the profits. Intelligence reports received by the Minister confirmed the republican movement had adopted a policy of benefiting from crime on a "shared basis".

The minister said there was no doubt that the mainstream republicans were heavily involved in serious crime, the paper's security editor, Tom Brady, reports.

Mr. McDowell listed a number of areas of crime in which the IRA is still involved, including protection rackets, major smuggling, trading in counterfeit goods, and hijacking of goods in transit.

Furthermore, he accused the Sinn Fein leadership of turning a blind eye to the crime spree. "The IRA's Army Council knows well what is going on and its membership overlaps with the leadership of Sinn Fein," Mr. McDowell told the paper. He said that the money "is being used for political purposes, despite the claims to the contrary." This is the organisation that the British Government would have foisted upon Northern Ireland as a partner in government.

Who would disagree that Saddam Hussein's Iraqi regime, in essence, was no worse?